



*Clerk: Mrs Jane Smith
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Minutes of the meeting of Lathom South Parish Council held at the Cricket Club, Blaguegate Lane, Lathom, WN8 8TY at 7:30 pm on Wednesday 8th February 2023

Councillors in attendance: Cllr Carol Blackledge, Cllr Andrew Beeston, Cllr Roger Clayton (Chairman), Cllr Andrew Chanter, Cllr Ian Moran, Cllr Ernie Pallas, Cllr Darren Steele

In attendance: County Councillor Rob Bailey and 3 members of the public attended the meeting

MINUTES

1 To record apologies for absence

All present.

2 To receive declarations of interests

There were no declarations of interest.

3 To sign as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th January 2023 were accepted as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

4 To co-opt Member to fill vacancy and hear declaration of acceptance of office

Darren Steele was formally co-opted as a Parish Councillor to fill the vacant post. The declaration of acceptance was read out, witnessed and signed.

5 Public Participation

The meeting will consider any matters raised by members of the public by email to the Clerk

- 'Slow Down, Save Lives' banner request for Vale Lane

A resident of Vale Lane had raised concerns following recent incidents involving speeding traffic on Vale Lane and requested a Slow Down Save Lives (SDSL) banner to be displayed on Vale Lane.

One of the SDSL banners which had been placed on Dicks Lane had been removed and was assumed stolen. The Clerk had contacted LCC to request a replacement banner and had been informed that the process of allocating banners had recently been changed. LCC now require a photograph of where Parish Councils intend to display the banners before they are issued.

It was resolved that a banner be requested for display on the fencing at the Spa Lane end of Vale Lane. As it is a requirement to relocate the SDSL banners at least every 12 weeks, it was agreed that the banner currently on Dicks Lane be relocated to a suitable area near to the roundabout on Vale Lane.

County Councillor Bailey advised that speed concern areas could be logged with the Lancashire Road Safety Partnership via www.lancsroadsafety.co.uk

The Clerk reported that she would send a photograph to LCC to apply for a replacement SDSL banner. Arrangements were to be made to relocate the banner from Dicks Lane to Vale Lane by the end of February.

County Councillor Bailey also advised that the Love Clean Streets App was to be extended to cover footpaths from 23rd February 2023. Previously it had been difficult to pinpoint a location being reported on a footpath but the App uses the GPS from the phone to accurately log the location. Setting up the new system necessitated the removal of any outstanding reports on the old system, therefore, any footpath issues outstanding from the last 2yrs would need to be reported again using the Love Clean Streets App.

The meeting enquired if Cllr Bailey could provide an update on plans for Parish Councils to share costs for certain works such as traffic calming measures. Cllr Bailey advised that he had pushed for a list of rates for common projects i.e. speed humps. A first list had been provided but the costs quoted were far too high and needed to be reassessed. The idea is still there for Parish Councils to share costs with LCC. Cllr Bailey advised that if the Parish Council had any specific ideas for shared projects they could still be looked at and details should be forwarded to Cllr Bailey to put forward to LCC Highways.

A resident commented that Dicks Lane seemed to be the only road in area which still had a 60mph speed limit and enquired how to make a request to reduce the speed limit. Cllr Bailey advised it was a lengthy process, a consultation period was required, a speed limit order placed, change of maps etc., which all takes approx. 6mths. It was agreed to discuss this further at the next Parish Council meeting.

A local resident raised concern regarding what continued to be pumped into the surface water egress from the DHL site on Statham Road. It was advised that the Environment Agency should be contacted the next time the contamination was seen. It was suggested to also involve the Friends of Tawd Valley as anything being pumped into Slate Brook will impact on the River Tawd.

A resident living in the proximity of Section E on the Stanley Industrial Estate commented on the intensive lighting at the battery store units. WLBC officials been out to view the situation but had stated that they were unable to take any action to reduce the light pollution as it was not directly pointed at residential buildings. It was concluded that the lighting currently in place was still the temporary lighting required during site construction and that it was also covered by a condition of planning permission. Another resident had already written back to the Council.

6 To ratify and authorise payment of accounts presented

Santander	160123	Bank charges	d.d.	£0.05
Working Woodlands	250123	Swells Wood	b.t	£1,400.00
Hugofox Ltd	270123	Web hosting	d.d	£23.99
J Smith	290123	Clerk's salary Jan	s.o	£ 561.64
LALC	310123	Election training	b.t	£35.00
NEST	310123	Pension Jan 23	d.d	£120.98
Cricket Club	080223	Room hire	b.t.	£45.00

The accounts were ratified and authorised for payment.

The Clerk advised that further to discussions at the previous meeting, CIL funds had been transferred from the reserve bank account to cover CIL payments which had been made from the current account. The reserve account now showed the balance of unspent CIL funds. There was no significant impact on interest received by keeping the CIL funding completely separate from Parish reserves.

7 To discuss any current planning issues:

There were no planning issues for discussion.

8 Update on Jacobs Wood and Swells Wood

The issue of accessing rubbish which had been dumped close to the stream in Swells Wood had not yet been resolved. Efforts continued to establish who the adjoining land belonged to.

A makeshift litter bin which had been placed in Jacobs Wood had become quite full with litter. It was suggested that the Parish Council purchase a proper litter bin which would allow for easier emptying. It was agreed that the Clerk obtain some quotes for a suitable (lidded) litter bin and that further discussions would be held at the next Parish Council meeting.

Councillors agreed to carrying out a litter pick in the woods when the weather improved. Cllr Moran advised that WLBC would be able to supply litter picker packs. The Clerk would make enquiries and a litter pick date could be agreed at the next meeting.

It was noted that a tree had fallen and was blocking the path coming into Swells Wood from Plough Lane. The Clerk had already reported this to Andrew Greenough to add to his schedule of work for his next planned work day in Swells Wood.

9 Report from South Lathom Residents' Association (SLRA) for information only

There had been no update on the issues highlighted at the previous meeting regarding the footpath (FP24) and cycle path around XL Business Park plot B and Statham Road. The official from WLBC who had been out to view the issue had not reported back. It was understood that any resolution would take time as legalities and processes would need to be redone. It was noted that FP101 had been shown in the planning guide for XL Business Park to be changed to a combined footpath and cycle path but this had not appeared in the outline planning for the site.

As discussed under item 5, the lights on plot E, plot D and plot B were causing sky light pollution due to them not being properly adjusted.

10 Exchanges of Information. For information only (no discussion)

Nothing further reported.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.55pm.

**Cllr Roger Clayton
Chairman**

8th March 2023